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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1627 Customer No. 022469  
 Examiner : T. Prasthofer  
 Serial No. : 09/586,131  
 Filed : June 2, 2000  
 Inventor : Marc Delcourt Docket: 1184-00  
 Title : CLONING METHOD BY  
 : MULTIPLE DIGESTION,  
 : VECTORS FOR IMPLEMENTING  
 : SAME AND APPLICATIONS

Dated: January 3, 2002

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We note with appreciation the Examiner's telephone communication of January 3, 2002. In furtherance of that conversation we respectfully point the Examiner's attention to Paragraph 3 of the Official Action dated April 23, 2001 (Paper No. 8), in which the restriction requirement between Groups I, II and III was withdrawn in response to Applicant's arguments. As such, we respectfully submit that the reply dated September 21, 2001 is fully responsive to the prior Official Action. We accordingly respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection for nonresponsiveness under 37 CFR 1.111, entry of the Amendment dated September 21, 2001, and early consideration of the amended claims on their merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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